

# MINUTES OF THE VCOG GOVERNING BOARD

REGULAR MEETING  
APRIL 24, 2006

MPO/VCOG/WAV CONFERENCE ROOM  
2570 W. INTERNATIONAL SPEEDWAY BLVD., SUITE 120  
DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA

## MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Cassandra Reynolds  
Mayor Greg Northrup  
Mayor George Coleman  
Mayor Robert F. Apgar  
Mayor Mike Thomas  
Mayor Roland Via  
Commissioner Lewis Long  
Mayor James Vandergriff  
Mayor Albert Erwin  
Mayor Fredrick Costello  
Mayor James Sowell  
Mayor Nancy Epps  
Mayor Allen Green

## REPRESENTING

Daytona Beach  
Daytona Beach Shores  
DeBary  
DeLand  
Edgewater  
Holly Hill  
Mayor Shuttleworth, Lake Helen  
New Smyrna Beach  
Orange City  
Ormond Beach  
Pierson  
Ponce Inlet  
Port Orange

Members Absent: Mayor Dennis Mulder, Deltona; Mayor Michael Thompson, Oak Hill; Mayor Blaine O'Neal, South Daytona; Council-member Art Giles, Volusia County; Ms. Judy Andersen, Volusia County School Board

## NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Michael Mellon

## REPRESENTING

Emergency Medical Foundation/EVAC

## OTHERS PRESENT

Gerry Brinton, P.E.  
Lawrence Taft  
Jim Cameron

## REPRESENTING

Volusia County Engineering  
DB Fire Dept/Vol. Co. Fire Chiefs Assoc.  
Daytona Beach/Halifax Chamber

## VCOG/WAV STAFF PRESENT

Mary Swiderski, VCOG Executive Director  
Herbert M. Seely, Chief Financial Officer  
Bruce Mowry, WAV Executive Director  
Mary Curran, Recording Secretary

## **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM**

At 5:05 Chairman Northrup called the March 27, 2006, regular VCOG Governing Board meeting to order.

The Roll was called and a quorum was declared present. Chairman Northrup led the Pledge to the Flag.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS/PARTICIPATION**

No comments were expressed by the public.

## **CHAIR'S COMMENTS/RECOGNITION**

The Chair had no special comments or any recognition(s) to present.

## VCOG EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S BRIEFING

Mary Swiderski pointed out that her written report was distributed on the table for the Board members' information/review. Mary Swiderski then presented a verbal report on the following:

- The Board had requested, at its February meeting, that Nextel provide VCOG information regarding the number of towers the company has in Volusia but to-date, Nextel hasn't contacted VCOG with any information.
- Verizon cell phones have been field-tested by Deltona, Daytona Beach Shores, Pierson, Ponce Inlet, and DeLand.
- The County sent VCOG a written commentary of its experiences with cell phone carriers (Nextel, Cingular and Verizon); a copy is attached to Mary Swiderski's report.
- The County's legal interpretation regarding the Smart Growth Implementation Committee's Proposals 2 & 3 regarding the VGMC is attached to Mary Swiderski's report.
- An invitation to VCOG members was distributed on the table for a myregion.org Community Information Session, "How Shall We Grow", scheduled April 27, 2006.
- Schedules of myregion.org Community Outreach meetings:  
Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at Daytona USA, 6 PM; Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at Holiday Inn in DeLand, 6 PM; and Monday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> at DBCC, 6 PM.  
Mary Swiderski will send a copy of the meetings schedule to Board members.
- Notes of the Halifax Chamber Local Government Committee, Beach Subcommittee's meeting with Sheriff Ben Johnson, regarding his Beach Law Enforcement/Safety Proposal, is attached to Mary Swiderski's report for VCOG Board members' information/review.

Mary Swiderski mentioned that she's been sending a lot of information via email to Board members and she wanted to know if this has been satisfactory to them or has it been too much information; also, if she's being redundant to other sources sending information and do members want/not want her to continue. Mayor Costello stated that he [personally] appreciated getting information; he mentioned another mayor saying they missed a meeting because they didn't get or remember a message about that meeting; Mayor Costello said, "Multiple contacts are good."

Mary Swiderski presented to Mayor Northrup a Certificate of Appreciation from VCOG staff, acknowledging his efforts and assistance on successfully locating and negotiating a lease on the new office space for VCOG.

Chairman Northrup mentioned myregion.org would like everybody – mayors & council/commission members – to come to its Community Outreach meeting on May 10<sup>th</sup> because it is an input organizational meeting; he emphasized that it's important for elected officials to give myregion.org some input because Volusia is going to be a part of it; he encouraged everyone to try and attend that meeting. Chairman Northrup added that the May 17<sup>th</sup> and May 22<sup>nd</sup> meetings are going to be a review of some of the organizational things. Mayor Costello mentioned having participated in some of the myregion.org workshops and he commented on what they are trying to do relating to economic development and growth is to make it where local jurisdictions have some more influence on what happens. Mayor Costello brought up a couple of matters: (1) Regarding economic development, one myregion.org recommendation under consideration is to maybe have a MyRegion legislative delegation meeting instead of county by county because other regions are starting to regionalize and they're gaining more clout in Tallahassee than going county by county with separate issues; (2) with SB 360, the legislature has appropriated some money for visioning and myregion.org is the first group to get State money to do a regional visioning to find out what each county wants to see as far as cooperation with the region. Mayor Costello said, "It is going to be ongoing with or without our (Volusia's) participation." and he commented, "I think it is incumbent on us to give whatever input we can because they are going to do it without us if we don't provide input."

Chairman Northrup mentioned hearing on the radio that the eminent domain bill passed in a House Committee but it won't go into effect until at least 2010. Mary Swiderski mentioned that, while in Tallahassee for Volusia Day, she'd heard the home rule issue regarding referendums had failed.

#### CONSENT AGENDA

##### **APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – MARCH 27, 2006**

Minutes of the March 27, 2006, regular meeting of the VCOG Board had been mailed with Board members' agenda packets.

##### **APPROVAL OF THE TREASURER'S REPORT – MONTH ENDING MARCH 31, 2006**

Treasurer's report covering the period of March 1, 2006 through March 31, 2006, had been mailed with Board members' agenda packets. *Note: Revenues and Expenditures were within the VCOG budget for the month.*

**MOTION** by Mayor Via for approval of the March 27<sup>th</sup> minutes – with one correction, inclusion of his name under list heading of "Members Present," as he had been present – and of the Treasurer's Report; motion was **SECONDED** by Mayor Epps and **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** on a voice vote.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

None

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### **TRANSPORTATION IMPACT FEES AND DISTRIBUTION BY QUADRANT – GERRY BRINTON, VOLUSIA COUNTY ENGINEER**

Mr. Brinton gave a presentation, using PowerPoint, of the County's overall transportation funding – the Transportation Trust Fund – which included: (1) the 5-year Road Program; (2) annual revenue sources and breakdown of actual and projected revenues FY 01/02 through FY 05/06; (3) a one-time bond issue – sold based on a backing of gas tax, being repaid solely with impact fees; (4) usage of funds – all the revenue is used for road & bridge maintenance, traffic engineering, operations of all signals etc., and new road construction and engineering – and breakdown of operational expenditures; (5) no property tax or general fund revenue goes into transportation; (6) significance of bond issue revenue to Road Program budget; (7) Road Program Bond Projects by Zones and costs [Zone 1 projects for Port Orange, Daytona Beach, Ormond Beach; Zone 2 project for New Smyrna Beach & Edgewater; Zone 3 projects for Deltona and Orange City; Zone 4 project for DeLand]; (8) how impact fees are distributed – must be spent in the Zone that it's collected – and funds can only be used for capacity improvements; (9) impact fee revenue is difficult to forecast because level of activity is variable; (10) impact fees in Volusia County are significantly lower than what they should be to be one-lane miles - that study will be starting up in next several months; (11) if impact fees should go up, revised fee would be scheduled to go into effect at beginning of 2008; (12) in 2004 the adopted impact fee schedule had an index put on it – i.e., every year in February it increases by 5%; (13) cities within each Transportation Impact Fee Zone [Zone 1 is Daytona Beach, Port Orange, Daytona Beach Shores, Ponce Inlet, South Daytona, Holly Hill, Ormond Beach; Zone 2 is New Smyrna Beach, Edgewater, Oak Hill; Zone 3 is Deltona, Orange City, DeBary, Lake Helen; Zone 4 is DeLand, Pierson]; (14) impact fee credits relating to new development – County Council is going to have workshop on May 4<sup>th</sup> to discuss revising its ordinance; (15) process County does each year for coordination and public input of Road Program. Lengthy Board members' discussions ensued regarding: (1) no plans in the near future for Zone 1 to widen A1A (Daytona Beach Shores to Ponce Inlet) as the decision has already been made and funds allocated for Zone 1 in the 5-year Road Program; (2) the amount of additional revenue a ½¢ sales tax would generate compared to the 5¢ local option gas tax; (3) when a hotel is torn down

and there is rebuilding on the same property an impact fee credit is given based on what trips were generated by the old hotel and they pay impact fees based on the new use and trips it generates; (4) expressed concerns of repaying the bond fund; (5) condominium occupancy and trips generated by permanent residency and tourists; (6) rising costs for road materials such as asphalt and comparison to cost for concrete; (7) costs of dirt fill-in; (8) the need for revision of road design standards; (9) comments on quality of life and personal opinions regarding new developments construction. Mayor Green remarked on the impact fee money used to repay the bond and he said, "If costs keep rising, people aren't going to build and how are you going to support the bond issue; you're going to have to lower standards in the housing market; you're creating the slum of the future. There is going to have to be reinvestment in redevelopment." Mayor Costello referred to comments made regarding affordable housing and the impact fees and he stated, "I don't know if this is a VCOG issue or a County Council issue, or just an individual city issue but it occurred to me, maybe we could collectively decide that whatever the level is in this market [e.g. \$200,000 - \$250,000] that anything under that we ask the County not to collect impact fees for transportation, etc. but in conjunction with [levying] a ½¢ sales tax." Mary Swiderski noted that on the information sheet re the Five-Year Road Program Development "Coordination & Public Input" schedule that there's no meetings with the MPO listed; she stated, "That's where a lot of our elected officials sit and they're very concerned, they're talking to citizens and they know which roads the citizens want." Mary Swiderski also commented on the County meetings are usually with municipal staff and not directly with the elected officials but at the MPO the elected officials are at the table. Mr. Brinton explained when the County has developed the draft [of the 5-Year Road Program] they send it out to the attention of all the Mayors, City Managers, and some of the Planning staff before it goes to the workshop with County Council; they also put it on the County's website and send it to the MPO if they are interested. Mr. Brinton stated that he is willing to make presentation to anybody who requests. Mayor Costello stated that he thought, "It would be appropriate – and I had some questions that I'm going to ask at the MPO tomorrow – that (Gerry) check with the County Manager and County Council and make sure it's okay with them if you give us (MPO) an update on an annual basis of the County program; I think that it would help me and probably some others to better understand the County's program as we then try and look at the overall MPO program." Mayor Costello expressed his appreciation to Mr. Brinton on his presentation. Brief discussion ensued of potential scheduling for Mr. Brinton to appear before the MPO Board. Chairman Northrup thanked Mr. Brinton for coming and giving his presentation.

## **BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS**

### COMMISSIONER LEWIS LONG

He recalled when living overseas that he became a rail enthusiast; he announced that he found out there is a Florida Coalition of Rail Passengers headquartered in Deltona; recently he attended a 30-Year Celebration of the Amtrak Station in Palatka.

**REQUEST** made by Commissioner Long for permission to give information to Mary Swiderski so she can make copies for Board members as several issues were addressed at the event that he thought may be of interest.

### MAYOR ROLAND VIA

He inquired of when VCOG would have its next discussion scheduled re growth issues. Chairman Northrup agreed to have that topic for discussion on the May VCOG Executive Committee agenda.

### MAYOR ALLEN GREEN

He made reference to two areas (DeBary and Orange City) that people are asking him where to get information about – "where they (cities) are pumping lakes back and forth and destroying some trees" – but he didn't know who they would go to, to discuss that so he had suggested they contact the cities' Mayors. Mayor Erwin stated he hadn't heard of any water destroying trees in Orange City. Mayor Coleman recommended referring inquiries to DeBary City Hall.

COMMISSIONER LEWIS LONG

He announced that the Lake Helen City Commission voted unanimously on a resolution against the study of the expressway coming through the conservation corridor.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the VCOG Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 P.M.

AS SUBMITTED, THE FOREGOING MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE VCOG GOVERNING BOARD WERE APPROVED IN AN OPEN MEETING HELD ON MAY 22, 2006, IN THE MPO/VCOG/WAV CONFERENCE ROOM AT 2570 W. INTERNATIONAL SPEEDWAY BOULEVARD, SUITE 120, DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA.

**VCOG, Inc.**

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Chair

ATTEST:

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Recording Secretary